

MUNICIPAL NATUROPATHY REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 50 NATUROPATHY

Secs.

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5000 APPLICABILITY

5000.1 This chapter applies to applicants for and holders of a registration to practice naturopathy.

5000.2 Section 4001, 4004, 4005, 4006, 4012 and 4013 of Chapter 40 supplement this chapter.

5001 TERM OF REGISTRATION

5001.1 Subject to § 5001.2, a registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight of February 28th, of each even-numbered year.

5001.2 If the Director changes the renewal system pursuant to § 4006.3 of Chapter 40 of this title, a registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall expire at 12:00 midnight of the last day of the month of the birthdate of the holder of the registration, or other date established by the Director.

5002 RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

5002.1 An applicant for renewal of a registration shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 40 pertaining to renewal.

5003 PRACTICE BY REGISTERED NATUROPATHS

5003.1 A person registered to practice naturopathy may use the title “Doctor of Naturopathy”.

5003.2 As required by Section 901(c) of the Act, all naturopaths who are not licensed to practice medicine under the Act shall provide to all clients or patients a written notice which shall read as follows:

This notice is provided to you pursuant to D.C. Law. I am a registered Doctor of Naturopathy, but I am not a licensed medical doctor and therefore do not practice “the application of scientific principles to prevent, diagnose, and treat physical

and mental diseases, disorders, and conditions and to safeguard the life and health of any woman and infant through pregnancy and parturition.”

An identical notice, in printing of a size to be easily readable, shall be posted in a prominent place in each office or location of practice.

5003.3 A person registered to practice naturopathy or naturopathic healing under this chapter may counsel individuals and treat human conditions through the use of “naturally occurring substances,” forces and agencies as defined herein.

5003.4 It shall be unlawful for a naturopath practicing in the District of Columbia to:

(a) Falsely lead any person to believe he or she practices medicine as defined in the Act.

(b) Use x-rays, perform surgical procedures, inject any substance into another person by needle, or perform any invasive procedure on another person;

(c) Deliver infants;

(d) Prescribe for or provide to another person any drugs, substance or device regulated by the laws of the District or Federal governments or available by prescription only; or

(e) File birth or death certificates or sign claims or authorization for payment of workers’ compensation benefits, Medicare or Medicaid benefits, or benefits provided for health care through other publicly assisted programs.

5099 DEFINITIONS

5099.1 As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meaning ascribed:

Applicant – a person making application to be registered as a naturopath.

“Naturally occurring substances” means food, natural vitamins and minerals, herbs and herbal preparations, roots, barks, homeopathic preparations, plant substances and natural medicines of animal, mineral or botanical origin which do not require a prescription unless from a homeopathic pharmacy.

“Counseling individuals and treatment through the use of naturally occurring substances” includes, but is not limited to, giving advice, ordering or prescribing naturally occurring substances, and the use of physical modalities, and other treatments, commonly provided by naturopaths and not otherwise prohibited under the Act.

“Surgical procedures” refer to the medically accepted definition of surgery, but shall not include care incident to superficial lacerations and abrasions, and the removal of foreign bodies located in the superficial structures, not to include the eye, and the use of antiseptics and topical local anesthetics in connection therewith.

“Drug, substance, or device” means a prescription or pharmaceutical drug, substance or a device but shall not include “naturally occurring substances.”

5099.2 The definitions in section 4099 of chapter 40 of this title are incorporated by reference into and are applicable to this chapter.

SUBCHAPTER IX RELATED OCCUPATIONS; REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS; PROHIBITED ACTIONS.

2-3309.1 NATUROPATHY

- (a) Any person who practices or offers to practice naturopathy or naturopathic healing in the District shall register with the mayor on forms prescribed by the Mayor, reregister at intervals the Mayor may require by rule, and pay the registration fee established by the Mayor.
- (b) A person registered to practice naturopathy or naturopathic healing may counsel individuals and treat human conditions through the use of naturally occurring substances in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.
- (c) Practitioners of naturopathy or naturopathic healing shall provide to all clients or patients a written notice stating that the practitioner, unless licensed to practice medicine in the District, does not practice the application of scientific principles to prevent, diagnose, and treat physical and mental diseases, disorders, and conditions and to safeguard the life and health of any woman and infant through pregnancy and parturition, and shall post an identical notice in a prominent place, in print of a size easily readable, in each office or location of practice.
- (d) Practitioners of naturopathy or naturopathic healing may use the title “Doctor of Naturopathy.”
- (e) It shall be unlawful for a practitioner of naturopathy or naturopathic healing to:
 - (1) By use of a title or description of services, falsely lead any person to believe the practitioner practices medicine as defined in § 3-1201.02(7);

- (2) Use x-rays, perform any surgical procedures, inject any substance into another person by needle, or perform any invasive procedure on another person;
- (3) Deliver infants;
- (4) Prescribe for or provide to another person any drug, substance or device regulated by the laws of the District or Federal governments or available by prescription only; or
- (5) File birth or death certificates or sign claims or authorization for payment of workers' compensation benefits, Medicare or Medicaid benefits, or benefits provided for health care through other publicly assisted programs.